

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A catheter ~~including~~ an end portion having a platform extending substantially radially outwardly therefrom, wherein said platform is formed of a biocompatible expandable material for expanding *in situ*.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 1 2, wherein said expandable material is capable of expanding two to three times the original size.
4. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 1 2, wherein said expandable material is a hydrophilic material.
5. (Original) The catheter according to claim 4, wherein said hydrophilic material is a hydrogel.
6. (Original) The catheter according to claim 1, wherein said platform is ring-shaped.
7. (Currently amended) A catheter for treating aneurysms, said catheter comprising: a lumen having an insertion end and an opposite end; and a radially outwardly expandable ring attached to the insertion end of the catheter, wherein said expandable ring is formed of a biocompatible expandable material.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 7 8, wherein said expandable material is capable of expanding two to three times the original size.

10. (Currently amended) The catheter according to claim 7 ~~8~~, wherein said expandable material is a hydrophilic material.

11. (Original) The catheter according to claim 10, wherein said hydrophilic material is a hydrogel.

12. (Currently amended) An expandable ring capable of being attached to a catheter, wherein said expandable ring is formed of a biocompatible expandable material.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) The expandable ring according to claim 12 ~~13~~, wherein said expandable material is capable of expanding two to three times the original size.

15. (Currently amended) The expandable ring according to claim 12 ~~13~~, wherein said expandable material is a hydrophilic material.

16. (Original) The expandable ring according to claim 15, wherein said hydrophilic material is a hydrogel.

17. (Original) A method of treating an aneurysm by inserting the catheter according to claim 1 into an artery in need of treatment.